

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action having a restriction requirement mailed on October 27, 2009. Claims 1-3 and 29-30 were pending and at issue prior to this amendment. Claims 1-3 have been canceled, without prejudice, in response to the restriction requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention. Applicant expressly reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in a divisional application, or other related application. New claims 70-95 have been added. New claims 70-95 are fully supported by the application as filed, and no new matter has been added.

Election/Restriction Requirement

The Examiner imposed a restriction requirement on the basis that the claims presented the following patentably distinct inventions:

- a. Group I, claims 1-3, drawn to forward and reverse primers for amplifying HPV;
- b. Group II, claims 29-30, drawn to an array having at least one probe to the HPV E1 gene.

In response to the Election/Restriction requirement, Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, to prosecute the invention of Group II, upon which at least pending claims 29-30 read. New claims 70-95 depend from one of claims 29 or 30, and therefore include all of the limitations of claim 29 or 30. Thus, new claims 70-95 are linked to claim 29 or 30, and are properly examinable with the elected invention.

Claims 1-3 have been canceled, without prejudice, as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Conclusion

Any claim amendments which are not specifically discussed in the above remarks are not made for reasons of patentability, do not affect the scope of the claims, and it is respectfully submitted that the claims satisfy the statutory requirements for patentability without the entry of such amendments. These amendments have only been made to increase claim readability, to improve grammar, or to reduce the time and effort required of those in the art to clearly understand the scope of the claim language.

Examination on the merits is requested. If the examiner feels that a telephone interview could expedite resolution of any remaining issues, the examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the phone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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